

Application No. 10/759,061
Amendment dated March 28, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 29, 2005

Amendments To The Specification:

Please replace paragraph [00024] with the following amended paragraph:

The profile of each column 22 is best seen in Figs. 4 and 5 and is characterized by two open faces. The particular shape of the vertical columns 22 is important in that the two open faces greatly facilitate the mechanical connection of the columns ~~16-22~~ to the horizontal beams 12 of the modular platform 10. As shown in Fig. 5, the two open faces of each column are positioned inwardly of the frame and provide ready access to the interior of the column to facilitate tightening of the bolts 24 used to directly mechanically connect the columns 22 to the horizontal cold-formed beams 12.

Please replace paragraph [00028] with the following amended paragraph:

This new guard rail post concept, which is made from cut and folded metal sheets, is advantageous in that it facilitates the installation of the tubular hand rails ~~22-38~~ compared to conventional tubular posts.